

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A method ~~of treating cancer comprising administering a composition comprising~~for reducing toxic side effects caused by a therapeutic compound and/or a physical radiation on normal, non-cancer related cells, tissues or organs comprising sequentially or simultaneously administering said therapeutic compound and/or said physical radiation, and an extract of a *Calotropis procera* plant, ~~and at least one therapeutic compound and/or a physical treatment that exerts relevant, detrimental side effects on normal, non-cancer related cells, tissues or organs to an individual in need of treatment,~~ whereby said toxic side effects are reduced.
2. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein said extract is obtained using an extraction procedure, comprising the steps of:
  - a) extracting a starting material of said *Calotropis procera* plant, in an aliphatic alcohol, by dissolving the starting material in said alcohol thereby obtaining a suspension of said material in said alcohol, stirring said suspension, and filtering said suspension by fritted glass thereby obtaining a first filtrate and a first solid part;
  - b) extracting said first solid part in an aliphatic alcohol thereby obtaining a second filtrate and a second solid part;
  - c) combining said first and said second filtrate thereby obtaining a combined filtrate, and evaporating said combined filtrate under vacuum thereby obtaining said extract,wherein said starting material is selected from the group consisting of fruits, aerial parts, subterranean parts, and their mixtures.
3. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, where said extract comprises at least two active compounds selected from the group consisting of asclepin, calactin, vorusharin, calotropin, calotropagenin, uzarigenin, calotoxin, usharin, usharidin, and 2''oxo-vorusharin.

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4. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the weight ratio of extract: therapeutic compound is in the range 0.001 : 1 to 1000 : 1.
5. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein said cancer is selected from the group consisting of breast cancer, lymphoma, sarcoma, pancreatic cancer, melanoma, colorectal cancer, glioma, non small cell lung cancer, small cell lung cancer, skin cancer, bone cancer, ovarian cancer, CNS cancer, renal cancer, bladder cancer, head and neck cancer, prostate cancer, liver cancer, and hematological cancers.
6. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 1, wherein said therapeutic compound(s) is an anti-cancer agent.
7. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 1, wherein said therapeutic compound is selected from the group consisting of adriamycin, alkeran, ara-c, bleomycin, biCNU, busulfan, CCNU, carboplatinum, cisplatinum, cyclophosphamide, cytoxan, daunorubicin, DTIC, 5-FU, fludarabine, gemcitabine (gemzar), herceptin, hexamethylmelamine, hydrea, idarubicin, ifosfamide, irinotecan (camptosar, CPT-11), leustatin, methotrexate, mithramycin, mitomycin, mitoxantrone, muphoran, navelbine, nitrogen mustard, oxaliplatin, rituxan, STI-571, streptozocine, taxol, taxotere, topotecan (hycamtin), velban, vincristine, VP-16, xeloda (capecitabine), and zevelin.
8. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 1, wherein said therapeutic compound(s) is a cytotoxic antibody or a fragment thereof.
9. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 1, wherein said therapeutic compound(s) is a cytotoxic hormone or a fragment thereof.
10. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 1, wherein said therapeutic compound(s) is a cytotoxic peptide or a fragment thereof.

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11. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein said physical treatment is therapeutic radiation.
12. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein said extract is administered prior to, after, or at the same time as said therapeutic compound(s).
13. (Currently amended) A method for obtaining an extract having biologically active components comprising the steps of:
  - a) extracting a starting material of a *Calotropis procera* plant in an aliphatic alcohol, by dissolving the starting material in said alcohol thereby obtaining a suspension of said material in said alcohol, stirring said suspension; and filtering said suspension by fritted glass thereby obtaining a first filtrate and a first solid part;
  - b) extracting said first solid part in an aliphatic alcohol thereby obtaining a second filtrate and a second solid part;
  - c) combining said first and said second filtrate thereby obtaining a combined filtrate; and
  - d) evaporating said combined filtrate under vacuum thereby obtaining said extract, wherein said starting material is selected from the group consisting of fruits, ~~aerial parts~~, subterranean parts, and their mixtures.
14. (Currently amended) An active extract isolated from the method according to claim 13, capable of reducing the toxic effects of an anti-tumor compound.
15. (Cancelled)
16. (Currently amended) A kit comprising ~~a container in which~~ an extract of *Calotropis procera* as defined in claim 1 in a first container is present, and an anti-cancer agent that exerts toxic side effects on normal, non-cancer related cells, tissues or organs in a second container in which a therapeutic compound is present.

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17. (New) A kit according to claim 16, wherein said anti-cancer agent is selected from the group consisting of adriamycin, alkeran, ara-c, bleomycin, biCNU, busulfan, CCNU, carboplatinum, cisplatinum, cyclophosphamide, cytoxan, daunorubicin, DTIC, 5-FU, fludarabine, gemcitabine (gemzar), herceptin, hexamethylmelamine, hydrea, idarubicin, ifosfamide, irinotecan (camptosar, CPT-11), leustatin, methotrexate, mithramycin, mitomycin, mitoxantrone, muphoran, navelbine, nitrogen mustard, oxaliplatin, rituxan, STI-571, streptozocine, taxol, taxotere, topotecan (hycamtin), velban, vincristine, VP-16, xeloda (capecitabine), and zevelin.